(d) to (f) Research studies do indicate that some parents, particularly in rural areas are indifferent towards education of girls. A programme of action 1992 was drawn up in consultation with all State Governments and UT Administrations which envisages specific measures and strategies to be adopted to see that girls are not discriminated against and they complete their course of study. Some of the steps undertaken to increase enrolment, retention and achievement levels of girls in school system include :

— provision of incentives such as free uniforms, free textbooks, attendance schoolarships, mid-day meals ;

— provision of primary and upper primary schools within easy walking distance;

— provision of programmes of part-time non-formal education for children who cannot attend whole day schools and children in habitations without schools;

— improvement of school facilities under centrally sponsored scheme of Operation Blackboard and particularly, toilet facilities for girls ;

— appointment of female teachers;

— revision of curriculum to avoid sex-bias ;

— laying down of minimum levels of learning and adoption of competency based approach etc.

Assistance to Sports persons

4133. DR. BAPU KALDATE :
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the pitiable condition of one of the country's finest Hockey Olympian and an Arjuna Award winner Shri Jagjit Singh who had to sell his gold medals for his living and is looking for donations for his survival;

(b) if so, whether there is any policy laid down to ensure a reasonably respectable life to those sports persons who bring laurels to the country ;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to provide adepuate help to the Hockey Olympian to bring him out of his present predicament ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : (a) Yes, Sir. (b) and (c) The Government of India has formulated a Scheme of "Sports Fund for pension to Meritorious Sportspersons" under which the sportspersons who have won Gold, Silver or Bronze Medal in Olympic Games or Gold Medal in Asian Games will receive pension at the rate of Rs. 2000 per month or Rs. 1500 per month respectively for life from the age of 30 years.

(d) The Government of India has sanctioned pension to Shri Jagjit Singh at the rate of Rs. 2000 per month out of the National Welfare Fund.

Facilities in Allahabad University

4134. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :
DR. BAPU KALDATE :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the state of Allahabad University, which is utterly lacking in facilities for research programmes, shortage of specialised faculty besides lack of library and laboratory facilities due to lack of funds;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any assesment with regard to the prevailing situation in the University;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(d) what steps are contemplated by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA)) : (a) to (d) State Universities are established by Acts of the State Legislatures. It is therefore, primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government to provide to adequate plan and Non-plan grants to the universities established by them. University Grants Commission development assistance is for :—

(i) new posts in generally new disciplines on 100% basis for five years ;

(ii) for laboratory and office equipment on 100% basis;

(iii) for library books, journals and equipment on 100% basis ; and

(iv) for buildings on 75% basis but for library building and women's hostel assistance is on 100% basis.

University Grants Commission has informed that the Commission has allocated an amount of Rs. 155.00 lakhs to Allahabad University for the 8th plan period for re-,cruitment of staff, purchase of books,

journals and equipment, construction of buildings and various other development purposes. Out of this, grants amounting to Rs. 62.00 lakhs have been sanctioned to Allahabad University till the end of March 1994.

Justice Punnayya Committee Report on Higher Education

4135. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether UGC have accepted quite a few recommendations made in the Punnayya Committee Report on funding of institutes of higher education without holding further discussions with the Vice-Chancellors of the Central Universities ;

(b) if so, what are the other main recommendations of the committee which have been accepted ;

(c) what are the recommendations that have been accepted ;

(d) whether recommendations of the high power panel regarding Central Universities switching over to appropriate mix of input funding system which may be standardised for comparable courses have also not been accepted; and

(e) if so, what are the reasons for rejection of this suggestion and also to other suggestions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission the report of the Punnayya Committee was discussed with the Vice-Chancellors of the Central Universities on January 27, 1994. Thereafter the commission considered the Committees Report at its meeting held on 2nd February, 1994. The main recommendations made by the Punnayya Committee on UGC funding of institutions of higher education, which have been accepted by the Commission are as under :—

(i) While universities should be encouraged to augment their resuorces, State or Government funding must continue to be an essential and mandatory requirement for support to higher education. The Government/State must continue to accent the major responsibility for funding the essential maintenance and developmental requirements of the universities.

(ii) Any additional resources generated by a University/Institution may be kept in a separate fund to be utilised for furtherance of the objectives of the university/institution. The UGC may provide a matching grant as an incentive to universities generating additional resources.

(iii) The unit cost system of calculation of eligibility for grant should replace the existing incremental system after the end of the current Five Year Plan.

(iv) The University Grants Commission must develop a system of presenting annually a set of selected information on academic administration and funding parameters of the institutions particularly which are fully funded by it. This information should be utilised in decision making processes.

(v) Fixation of norms regarding teacher-student ratio, academic and non-academic costs, work load of teacher, etc.

(vi) Central Universities should avoid offering conventional courses.

(vii) There should be upward revision of tuition fee with immediate effect and be periodically adjusted. Fees for library, laboratory, sports should be revised upwards to recover a significant part of the recurring cost.

(c) The Punnayya Committee, inter-alia, recommended that 20% of the annual maintenance grant may be released to the universities in April-May, 60% in September-October and the remaining 20% in December. This could not be accepted by UGC because it was felt that the present quarterly system of disbursement of grants is better.

(d) No Sir, UGC has in principle, accepted the Punnayya Committee's recommendation that Central Universities may switch to appropriate mix of in-put funding and student funding systems which may be standardised for comparable courses of study by UGC over a period of time.

(e) Does not arise.

प्रतिभाशाली छात्रों के लिए नवोदय विद्यालयों का खोला जाना

4136. **श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज:** क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 1985-86 में इस आशय का एक निर्णय लिया गया था कि देश की चारों दिशाओं में बिखरे प्रतिभाशाली छात्रों को सर्वश्रेष्ठ तथा अत्याधुनिक शिक्षा प्रदान करने के लिए देश के प्रत्येक जिले में एक नवोदय विद्यालय खोला जायेगा;

(ख) यदि हां, तो मार्च, 1993 तक कुल कितने जिलों में ऐसे नवोदय विद्यालय खोले गये हैं और इन विद्यालयों में कुल कितने विद्यार्थियों को दाखिला दिया गया है;